



తెలంగాణ రాజ పత్రము
THE TELANGANA GAZETTE
PART-I EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 190]

HYDERABAD, FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2015.

NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

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LABOUR EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND FACTORIES DEPARTMENT
(Labour)

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES OF THE SCHEME FOR SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEME FOR TRANSPORT DRIVERS, HOME GUARDS, WORKING JOURNALISTS OF THE TELANGANA STATE.

[G.O. Ms. No.20, Labour Employment Training & Factories (Labour), 23rd June, 2015.]

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3(4) of the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 (Central Act No.33 of 2008), the Governor of Telangana State hereby order for implementation of Social Security Scheme for "Transport Drivers/Home Guards/Working Journalists" in the Telangana State with a coverage of Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees five lakhs only) Accidental Insurance. The entire cost of premium for Rs.5,00,000/- Accidental Insurance for beneficiary covered under the scheme shall be paid by the State Government.

The operational guidelines of the above scheme are as follows:-

1. Preamble:

Transport Drivers are engaged in highly risky job and are prone to accidents which can be fatal in nature. In the event of death of the Transport Drivers, the families of such drivers suffer great distress and economic hardship. The rate of accidental deaths (accidental deaths for 1,00,000 population) in united Andhra Pradesh was 36.1 against the national average of 32.6. Of the deaths due to road accidents numbering 1,37,423, united Andhra Pradesh accounted for 10.7% and was 3rd in the Country. As on June, 2015, there are a total of 5,08,154 valid Transport licenses pertaining to Public Transport.

The Home Guards Organization is intended to provide trained volunteers service to help, assist, supplement and handle essential services like electricity, transport, fire services, water works, nursing and first-aid through its functional units and as an auxiliary to Police. The Home Guards perform the duties and tasks assigned by the organization to which they are deputed and are subject to all responsibilities and obligations attached to that post or duty. They exercise the powers and enjoy the protections attached to the organization by which they are employed. While serving as an auxiliary to the Police Force, they discharge practically all the duties of a Police Constable and some of their important duties. As on June, 2015 there are about 20,098 Home Guards are working in the State of Telangana.

The Journalists, work in odd hours for media coverage and are prone to accidents which can be fatal in nature. In the event of the deaths, the families of such Journalists suffer great distress and economic hardship. As on June, 2015, there are about 12000 Journalists working for various media houses in the State of Telangana.

The accidental death of the above groups results in misery to his/her family due to loss of the bread earner.

There is every need for implementation of Accident Insurance Scheme for the above groups for an Insurance amount of Rs.5.00 Lakhs keeping in view the present day scale of expenditure.

2. OBJECT:

The main object of the Scheme is to provide relief to the families of Transport Drivers who are registered with the Transport Department of the State of Telangana and who are employed as Drivers in Transport Vehicles, Home Guards working under Home Department and Working Journalists who are working in various media houses, both in print and electronic media in the event of accidental death.

3. SALIENT FEATURES OF THE SCHEME:-

- (i) All Transport Drivers who are registered with the Transport Department of the State of Telangana and who are employed as Drivers in Transport Vehicles (including Auto, Lorry, Bus, Jeep, Taxi, Private Vehicles and such other vehicles engaged in Goods Transport and passenger transport), are eligible to become beneficiaries of the Scheme;
- (ii) All Home Guards working under the control Home Department of Government of Telangana or may be specified by the Home Department of Govt. of Telangana;
- (iii) All Working Journalists as defined in the Working Journalists Act, 1955 and are working in the Telangana State or may be specified by the Commissioner, Information & Public Relations Dept.;
- (iv) The beneficiaries specified under the scheme will be registered as beneficiaries under the scheme with the Registering Authority on-line/through Facilitation Centres or such other means as may be specified by the Government;
- (v) The beneficiary will be eligible for Rs.5.00 Lakhs Accident Death Insurance which will be paid from the Group Insurance Scheme taken by the State Government.

SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEME FOR THE TRANSPORT DRIVERS. HOME GUARDS AND WORKING JOURNALISTS IN TELANGANA STATE

1. PRELIMINARY:-

- (i) Short title, extent, application and commencement—
the scheme may be called “The Telangana Transport Drivers, Home Guards and Working Journalists Social Security Scheme-2015”.
- (ii) It extends to the whole of the State of Telangana;
- (iii) It shall apply to all the Transport Drivers, Home Guards and Working Journalists in the Telangana State;
- (iv) It shall come into force from the date specified by the Government.

2. DEFINITIONS -

In this scheme, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (a) “Act” means the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008;
- (b) “Beneficiary” means Transport Drivers who are registered with the Transport Department of the State of Telangana and who are employed as Drivers in Transport Vehicles, Home Guards working under the Department of Home and Working Journalists as defined in the Working Journalists Act, 1955 and are working in Telangana State;
- (c) “Family” relating to a beneficiary shall be deemed to consist of the beneficiary, his/ her spouse, son up to 21 years of age, unmarried daughter, widowed daughter if residing with the beneficiary, dependent parents and the widow and children of a deceased son, if any;
- (d) “Form” means of Proforma appended to this Scheme.
- (e) “Registering Authority” and “Claim Receiving Authority” means the Assistant Labour Officer (Social Security Scheme) for Transport Drivers; the Superintendent of Police of District/Commissioner of Police in case of cities wherever applicable for the Home Guards and Divisional Public Relations Officer for the Working Journalists ;

NOTE :

Words and expressions used in this scheme and not defined shall have the same meaning assigned to them in the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008 and Rules made there under.

3. Fund :

There will not be a separate Fund for implementation of the Scheme since entire cost of the premium contribution amount will be borne by the State Government. The Finance Department will release the required budget to the LET&F Department. In turn the LET&F Department will pay the premium amount directly to the Insurance Agency selected for the scheme.

4. MASTER POLICY HOLDER:

The Commissioner of Labour shall select the Insurance Agency for accidental Insurance of Transport Drivers / Home Guards / Working Journalists for Rs.5.00 Lakhs through competitive bidding. After sanction of budget by Government, three Master Policies will be entered with the Insurance Agency. The Commissioner of Labour shall enter the Master Policy on behalf of Transport Drivers, the Inspector General of Police (Home Guards) shall enter the Master Policy on behalf of Home Guards and The Commissioner, Information & Public relations shall enter the Master Policy on behalf of Working Journalists with the Insurance Agency. Such officer shall be called as Master Policy Holder.

5. REGISTERING AUTHORITY:

- (i) The Registering Authority shall receive applications in the prescribed form from the beneficiaries.
- (ii) The Registering Authority shall forward the complete list of beneficiaries in prescribed format to the concerned Master Policy Holder.

6. MASTER POLICY HOLDER:

The Master Policy holder shall furnish the complete list of beneficiaries pertaining to his Master Policy to the Insurance Company.

7. CLAIM RECEIVING AUTHORITY:

- (i) In the event of death of the insured person, the claimant shall apply in a prescribed format to the Claim Receiving Authority ;
- (ii) The Claim Receiving Authority shall after verifying the claimants details forward the application to the concerned Branch of the Insurance Company for the release of amount from the insurance agency under intimation to the Master Policy Holder;
- (iii) The payment towards the claim will be released by the Insurance Company to the Master Policy Holder. Master Policy Holder shall release the funds to the Claim Receiving Authority for disbursement to the Claimant.

8. DISENTITLEMENT FOR BENEFITS AND REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES:

- (i) An eligible beneficiary who fails to register his name with Registering Authority within the time specified by the Master Policy Holder or has attained the age of sixty years, shall cease to be a beneficiary;
- (ii) Any grievance may be addressed to the Registering Authority who shall dispose of the grievance within 30 days by way of a speaking order;
- (iii) An appeal may lie before the Master Policy Holder within 30 days of communication of the decision of the Registering Authority and the decision of the Master Policy Holder shall be final;

9. POWER TO REMOVE DIFFICULTIES: If any difficulty or doubt arise as to the interpretation of any of the provisions of the Scheme, the decision of the Government shall be final and binding;

10. POWER TO AMEND SCHEME: The State Government, by notification in the official Gazette, may modify or amend the scheme for its proper implementation and in the interest of Government.

HARPREET SINGH,
Secretary to Government.

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